

Maya's Big Dinosaur Fossil Hunt

Grade 1

math

dinosaurs

Students will count forward and backward within 20 using dinosaur theme objects.

Name: _____

Date: _____

1. Maya finds fossil bones. She finds 3 fossil bones in the mud. She finds 2 more. How many fossil bones does Maya have now? Draw dots to show your work. $3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$

2. Maya spots dino eggs in a nest. She counts 4 dino eggs. Then she counts 3 more dino eggs in the next nest. How many dino eggs does Maya count in all? $4 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$

3. Maya walks past ancient ferns. She counts 9 ancient ferns on the left path. She counts 5 ancient ferns on the right path. How many ancient ferns does Maya count in all? $9 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$

4. Maya finds 12 fossil bones near the big rock. A dino takes 4 fossil bones away. How many fossil bones does Maya have left? Fill in the blank. $12 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

5. True or False? Maya counts 6 dino eggs in the first nest. She counts 7 dino eggs in the next nest. Maya has 14 dino eggs in all. Circle: TRUE or FALSE. Show your work below.

6. Maya walks around the meteor crater. She counts ancient ferns by 2s. Fill in the pattern: 2, 4, 6, , , . Maya counts all the way to 12 ferns. What are the three missing numbers?

7. Maya finds fossil bones in 3 spots near the meteor crater. She finds 5 fossil bones at each spot. She already had 2 fossil bones in her bag. How many fossil bones does Maya have in all? Show every step.

8. Maya reaches the dig site. She has 17 fossil bones in her bag. She needs 20 fossil bones to finish building the full dino skeleton at the museum. How many more fossil bones does Maya still need to find? Show your work. Maya's mission is complete when she reaches 20! $20 - 17 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer Key: Maya's Big Dinosaur Fossil Hunt

GRADE 1 | TEACHER & PARENT USE ONLY

After Q6, pause and ask students to point to the meteor crater drawing and count aloud with Maya — this mirrors the exact skip-count sequence in Q6 and reinforces the 2s pattern before students tackle Q7 independently.

1. Maya finds fossil bones. She finds 3 fossil bones in the mud. She finds 2 more. How many fossil bones does Maya have now? Draw dots to show your work. $3 + 2 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q1: Maya starts with 3 fossil bones. She adds 2 more. $3 + 2 = 5$ fossil bones.

2. Maya spots dino eggs in a nest. She counts 4 dino eggs. Then she counts 3 more dino eggs in the next nest. How many dino eggs does Maya count in all? $4 + 3 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q2: Maya counts 4 dino eggs + 3 dino eggs. $4 + 3 = 7$ dino eggs.

3. Maya walks past ancient ferns. She counts 9 ancient ferns on the left path. She counts 5 ancient ferns on the right path. How many ancient ferns does Maya count in all? $9 + 5 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q3: Maya counts 9 ancient ferns + 5 ancient ferns. $9 + 5 = 14$ ancient ferns.

4. Maya finds 12 fossil bones near the big rock. A dino takes 4 fossil bones away. How many fossil bones does Maya have left? Fill in the blank. $12 - 4 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q4: Maya had 12 fossil bones. She lost 4. $12 - 4 = 8$ fossil bones left.

5. True or False? Maya counts 6 dino eggs in the first nest. She counts 7 dino eggs in the next nest. Maya has 14 dino eggs in all. Circle: TRUE or FALSE. Show your work below.

Answer: Q5: Maya counts 6 dino eggs + 7 dino eggs. $6 + 7 = 13$ dino eggs. Maya does NOT have 14. The answer is FALSE.

6. Maya walks around the meteor crater. She counts ancient ferns by 2s. Fill in the pattern: 2, 4, 6, , , . Maya counts all the way to 12 ferns. What are the three missing numbers?

Answer: Q6: Maya counts by 2s. 2, 4, 6, then $6 + 2 = 8$, $8 + 2 = 10$, $10 + 2 = 12$. The three missing numbers are 8, 10, 12.

7. Maya finds fossil bones in 3 spots near the meteor crater. She finds 5 fossil bones at each spot. She already had 2 fossil bones in her bag. How many fossil bones does Maya have in all? Show every step.

Answer: Q7: Step 1 — Maya finds $5 + 5 + 5$ fossil bones at the 3 spots = 15 fossil bones. Step 2 — Maya adds her 2 from her bag. $15 + 2 = 17$ fossil bones in all.

8. Maya reaches the dig site. She has 17 fossil bones in her bag. She needs 20 fossil bones to finish building the full dino skeleton at the museum. How many more fossil bones does Maya still need to find? Show your work. Maya's mission is complete when she reaches 20! $20 - 17 = \underline{\quad}$

Answer: Q8: Maya needs 20 fossil bones total. She has 17 fossil bones. $20 - 17 = 3$. Maya needs 3 more fossil bones to finish the dino skeleton and complete her mission!

